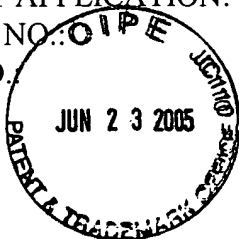


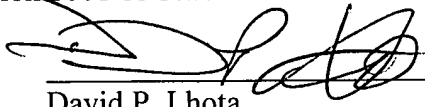
PATENT APPLICATION: **BARBECUE COOKING UTENSIL**
SERIAL NO.: **10/734,347**
FILE NO.: **4876.001**



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

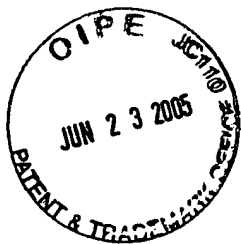
I HEREBY CERTIFY that the following correspondence: *AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED 03/21/2005; and RETURN POSTCARD FOR CONFIRMATION OF RECEIPT* are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 21st day of June, 2005.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code.



David P. Lhota
Date: 6-21-05

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

June 21, 2005

In re application of : Wilkinson, Arland Gray Jr.
Serial No. : 10/734,347
Filed : December 12, 2003
Title : **BARBECUE COOKING UTENSIL**
Examiner : Watts, Douglas D.
Art Unit : 3724
Attorney Docket No. : 4876.001

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Responsive to Office Action dated March 21, 2005, please amend this application to place it in condition for allowance as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly cancel claim 12.

Please amend Claim 10 as follows:

10. (Twice Amended) A barbeque fork for holding and removing food items, said fork comprising:

a handle;

a tine head on a first end of said handle, said tine head having at least one tine;

a rod slidably supported on said handle, said rod comprising means for engaging food

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Applicant: Wilkinson, A. G. Jr.
Serial No.: 10/734,347
June 21, 2005

items on said tine head and means for preventing said rod from pulling free from said handle; said food engaging means being slidably disposed along an independent plane over and substantially parallel to a top surface of said tine; [and]

at least one guide post for slidably supporting said rod on said handle, said guide post having an aperture for slidably receiving said rod to facilitate movement of said rod across said handle and sliding said food engaging means; and

a slot defined by one of said guides for facilitating removal of said rod from said slotted guide such that said rod is able to pivot.

12. (Canceled) A fork as recited in claim 11, wherein said means for slidably supporting said rod comprises:

a slot defined by one of said guides for facilitating removal of said rod from said slotted guide such that said rod is able to pivot.